

II Amendment To The Claims

Applicant cancels claims 1, 24–38 and 45 without prejudice to the reintroduction of those claims in a divisional application, and inserts new claims 46–68 as set forth below in a listing of the current status of all claims in the Application:

Claim 1. (canceled)

Claims 24 – 38. (canceled)

Claim 45. (canceled)

Claim 46. (new): An antimicrobial composition comprising:

(A) a mixture free of polyphenol compounds and benzyl alcohol, said mixture comprising at least two lipophilic alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agents which are selected from the group consisting of n-butyl alcohol, iso-butyl alcohol, L-menthol, octyl-alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, α -menthylbenzyl, alcohol, heptyl alcohol, n-amyl alcohol, iso-amyl alcohol, anisic alcohol, citronellol, decyl alcohol, geraniol, β -y-hexenol, lauryl alcohol, linalool, nerolidol, nonadienol, nonyl alcohol, rhodinol, terpeneol, borneol, clineol, anisole, cuminyl alcohol, 10-un-decen-1-ol, 1-hexadecanol, or their derivatives and at least one hydrophilic non-alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agent which comprises an organic acid containing from 1 to 15 carbon atoms or physiologically acceptable salt thereof or hydrophilic acetate or hydrophilic aldehyde; or

(B) a mixture comprising a generally recognized as safe flavoring agent selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol and polyphenol compounds and at least one hydrophilic non-alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agent which comprises an organic acid containing from 1 to 15 carbon atoms, a physiologically acceptable salt thereof or hydrophilic acetate or hydrophilic aldehyde, the mixture containing no other generally recognized as safe flavored alcohols.

Claim 47. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said organic acid contains 2 to 10 carbon atoms.

Claim 48. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said organic acid is selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, acontic acid, formic acid, malic acid, lactic acid, phenylacetic acid, citric acid, mandelic acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, tannic acid, hydrocinnamic acid and mixtures thereof.

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- Claim 49. (new): The composition according to claim 48, wherein said organic acid is lactic acid.
- Claim 50. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said physiologically acceptable salts contain from 2 to 10 carbon atoms and are derived from organic acids selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, acontic acid, formic acid, malic acid, lactic acid, phenylacetic acid, citric acid, mandelic acid, tartaric acid, fumaric acid, tannic acid, hydrocinnamic acid and mixtures thereof.
- Claim 51. (new): The composition according to claim 50, wherein said physiologically acceptable salts are derived from lactic acid.
- Claim 52. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein the hydrophilic acetate is selected from the group consisting of allicin, triacetin, potassium acetate, sodium acetate, calcium acetate and mixtures thereof.
- Claim 53. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein hydrophilic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of furfural, propenic aldehyde and vanillin.
- Claim 54. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein mixture (A) additionally contains a hydrophilic alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agent which is an alcohol selected from the group consisting of 1-propanol, glycerol, propylene glycol and acetoin.
- Claim 55. (new): The composition according to claim 54, wherein the hydrophilic alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agent is propylene glycol.
- Claim 56. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein mixture (A) additionally contains at least one essential oil.
- Claim 57. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein mixture (B) additionally contains at least one essential oil.
- Claim 58. (new): The composition according to claim 46, which contains from 0.01% to 90% by weight, of generally recognized as safe flavoring agents.
- Claim 59. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein the polyphenol compounds in mixture (B) are selected from the group consisting of pyrocatechol, resorcinol, hydroquinone, phloroglucinol, pyrogallol, hexahydroxybenzene, usnic acid, acylpolyphenols, lignins, anthocyanins, flavones, catechols, gallic

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acid derivatives (such as tannins, gallotannin, tannic acids, gallotannic acids), their derivatives (such as (2,5-dihydroxyphenyl)carboxylic and (2,5-dihydroxyphenyl) alkanecarboxylic substitutions, salts, esters and amides), caffeic acid and its esters and amides, flavonoids, polyphenol derivatives, and extracts from Camellia, Primula.

- Claim 60. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said mixture (B) contains from 0.01% to 25% by weight, of said additional generally recognized as safe flavoring agents.
- Claim 61. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said composition consists of generally recognized as safe flavoring agents.
- Claim 62. (new): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said composition additionally contains emulsifiers, stabilizers, antioxidants, preservatives, solvents and/or carriers.
- Claim 63. (new): A microbially perishable product containing the antimicrobial composition of claim 46.
- Claim 64. (new): An antimicrobial composition comprising:
- (A) a mixture free of polyphenol compounds and benzyl alcohol, said mixture comprising at least two generally recognized as safe flavoring agents, including lactic acid and at least two lipophilic alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agents which are selected from the group consisting of n-butyl alcohol, iso-butyl alcohol, L-menthol, octyl-alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, α -menthylbenzyl, alcohol, heptyl alcohol, n-amyl alcohol, iso-amyl alcohol, anisic alcohol, citronellol, decyl alcohol, geraniol, β -y-hexenol, lauryl alcohol, linalool, nerolidol, nonadienol, nonyl alcohol, rhodinol, terpineol, borneol, clineol, anisole, cuminyl alcohol, 10-un-decen-1-ol, 1-hexadecanol, or their derivatives; or
- (B) a mixture comprising a generally recognized as safe flavoring agent selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol and polyphenol compounds, and comprising lactic acid, the mixture containing no other generally recognized as safe flavored alcohols
- Claim 65. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said mixture (A) also comprises at least one essential oil.
- Claim 66. (new): A microbially perishable product containing the antimicrobial composition of claim 64.

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Claim 67. (new): An antimicrobial composition comprising:

(A) a mixture free of polyphenol compounds and benzyl alcohol, said mixture comprising at least two generally recognized as safe flavoring agents, including at least one hydrophilic non-alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agent, which comprises an organic acid containing from 1 to 15 carbon atoms or physiologically acceptable salt thereof or hydrophilic acetate or hydrophilic aldehyde and comprises at least two lipophilic alcoholic generally recognized as safe flavoring agents selected from the group consisting of n-butyl alcohol, iso-butyl alcohol, L-menthol, octyl-alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, α -menthylbenzyl, alcohol, heptyl alcohol, n-amyl alcohol, iso-amyl alcohol, anisic alcohol, citronellol, decyl alcohol, geraniol, β -y-hexenol, lauryl alcohol, linalool, nerolidol, nonadienol, nonyl alcohol, rhodinol, terpeneol, borneol, clineol, anisole, cuminyl alcohol, 10-un-decen-1-ol, 1-hexadecanol, or their derivatives; or

(B) a mixture comprising a generally recognized as safe flavoring agent selected from the group consisting of benzyl alcohol and polyphenol compounds, and comprising lactic acid, the mixture containing no other generally recognized as safe flavored alcohols.

Claim 68. (new): The composition according to claim 67, wherein said mixture (B) also comprises at least one essential oil.